

REMARKS

With the addition of new claims 18 to 27, claims 10 to 27 are pending in the present application. In view of the foregoing amendments and the following remarks, it is respectfully submitted that all of the presently pending claims are allowable, and reconsideration of the present application is respectfully requested.

Applicants note with appreciation the acknowledgement of the claim for foreign priority and the indication that all copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received.

Applicants thank the Examiner for considering the previously filed Information Disclosure Statements and cited references.

Claim 17 has been amended herein without prejudice, thereby rendering moot the rejection thereof under 35 U.S.C. § 101. Withdrawal of that rejection of claim 17 is therefore respectfully requested.

As regards the obviousness-type double patenting rejection of claims 10 to 17 over claims of pending U.S. Patent No. 7,051,710, while Applicants do not necessarily agree with the merits of this rejection, to facilitate matters, submitted herewith is a “Terminal Disclaimer to Obviate a Double Patenting Rejection Over a ‘Prior’ Patent” over U.S. Patent No. 7,051,710. As such, it is respectfully submitted that the present rejection is moot, and withdrawal of this rejection is respectfully requested.

New claims 18 to 27 have been added. Claims 18 to 27 do not add new matter and are supported by the application, including specification, as originally filed. Claims 18 to 22 depend from claim 17 and are therefore allowable for at least the same reasons as claim 17. Claims 23 to 27 depend from claim 16 and are therefore allowable for at least the same reasons as claim 16.

CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that all of pending claims 10 to 27 are allowable. It is therefore respectfully requested that the rejections be withdrawn. Prompt reconsideration and allowance of the present application are therefore respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

Dated: February 11, 2011

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